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Fundraiser – Lost Ball Golf Tournament

The first annual golf tournament fundraiser was held June 14th. 24 teams of players queued up for the shotgun start of the golf tournament at the Golf Club at Red Rock.

Golfers queued up for the shotgun start of the golf tournament at the Golf Club at Red Rock.

Team members participating in the mass casualty exercise at the Rapid City Regional Airport

Above left – celebrating Flag Day with flair, Kathie sells raffle tickets.

Above right – the tremendous support from community businesses of prizes for the raffle.

Left – Deputy Tweeten staying cool by taking a soaking at the Dunk a Deputy station.

Team members participating in Freshman Impact exercise for Douglas High School
Events and Training

Check Sheets
July-August – Navigation
September - Extrication

July
11th – Business Meeting
18th – Vertical Check Sheets
25th – Navigation Check Sheets
31st – July 5 – Dog Exercise

August
1st – Business Meeting
Summer Vacation

September
5th – Business Meeting
12th – Trench Rescue Classroom
19th – Trench Rescue Practical
26th – Downed Aircraft / ELT

Team Goals

The following goals have been set for 2017:

• Complete the replacement plan for vehicles, including to have a new Rescue 2 by 2018
• 100% compliance with checksheet completion
• Maintain a minimum of 25 trained and active members
• Have at least six members attend training outside the department, including the Homeland Security Conference and Instructor Training

Team Leader’s Corner

SAR has been busy; not so much with rescue calls but more with prepping for two new vehicle additions and a new floor in our station. Through a generous donation, we got rid of the carpet in our training room and office and now have a much cleaner laminate-style floor. We’re excited to have something that is more in-tune with our operations - carpet and search missions just don't mesh!

With money we received through wildland fire reimbursement, we were able to replace another vehicle this year. We will welcome the chassis for our "new" Rescue 2 in July and have ordered the box to store our rope rescue equipment. Replacing vehicles is very important for our team; having a dependable vehicle that meets the latest safety standards allows rescuers to do their job better.

Rescue 1 has been slightly delayed but we’re hoping to have it by the first of August. We will have some work to do when it comes; switching the gear from the old truck to the new one will be the first step, then training all members on the operation of equipment will be the second. We are anticipating this switch and, while the old Rescue 1 has served us well, excited for a shiny new truck to keep our team members safe while responding!

Wildland fire season has peaked and our team supported the Keystone Fire operation outside of Laramie, WY. Spending 14 days at the Incident Command Post, our communications/command trailer kept everyone talking on the incident and our generator provided the power to run the entire camp. We are very fortunate to be able to help out during these critical missions and, through a contract with the State of South Dakota, our team receives reimbursement for services provided.

This year, our team hosted a golf tournament as our annual fundraiser. With 24 teams signed up and 96 players, we felt it was a success! We had a lot of fun dunking a deputy, driving drunk (teeing off with drunk goggles isn't as easy as it looks!), and playing a game with Vast Broadband. We're looking forward to next year and hope to have even more golfers. We had an excellent group of businesses that provided sponsorships for our event and cannot thank them enough for their support. Without them, the event would not have been as successful.

~Tammy Stadel
Team Leader

Keystone Fire, Incident Command - generator in foreground and command trailer along the trees.
Training Update

In April we finished off the second big training for our new trainees, the Emergency Rescue Technician (ERT) class. This class has a final written test of 50 questions. I am happy to report that the trainees all were great students and passed the test. Congratulations!!!!

In May they got some more of the fun training that we do. One is the EVOC course. Trainees drive all the trucks around cones to get a feel for how they turn and where there blind spots are. It is not a fast course but it is a lot of fun scaring the cones. They also get a communications class on how we talk on the radio and the channels we use for what area and how we communicate with other departments. The highlight is a trip to the dispatch center. I would like to thank them for having us stop in and let the new people see what they do. Thanks Dispatch!!!

Part of May and June we shifted gears and had some more advanced training which got the team and the trainees all working on scenarios on vertical, scree and guide line rescues. We went out to various locations and set systems up in different configurations to get the team thinking of ways to do rescues.

Well that is a recap of the training that we have had. It has been a very busy time with all the other things that you have read about. Yet our team is focused on training and making sure we are ready to quickly and safely assist those who will need our help. Please go online to our website and see the training that we have coming up.

~ Jason “JD” Dannenbring
Training Officer

The growing number and popularity of area races is keeping the team busy on weekends. Team members stage along the race routes for racers in need of carryout service for their injured selves and bikes.

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Boulders serve as excellent anchors in an area of trees scarred by fire and pine beetle infestation.

The haul line is rigged high for the first stretch of the rescue to allow the stokes basket carrying the subject to float above all obstacles along the way.

Vertical Rescue Exercise

Hippy Hole is one of the more difficult areas to carry a person out of due to extreme terrain. Exercises such as this one help our team members work through challenges and find more efficient methods for carrying out a rescue.

The haul team pulling the stokes basket up the hill were able to find a reasonably clear area to stand perpendicular to the haul line.

The haul line is rigged high for the first stretch of the rescue to allow the stokes basket carrying the subject to float above all obstacles along the way.

It is a tough climb up the slope for team members as they must scramble over large rocks and downed trees while steadying the stokes basket.

While the blue rope that will carry our subject appears to hang nearly level to the group waiting in the distance, challenges along this second stretch include huge boulders and a cut away in the slope.

Once the basket arrives at the end of this second stretch, team members will attach a wheel to the bottom of the stokes basket to assist with transport up the rocky trail.

Packing up and heading home.